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Noes.

1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar.
2. ,, Sir Norman Marjoribanks.
3. ,, Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur.
4. ,, Mr. T. E. Moir.
5. ,, Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
6. ,, Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
7. The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan.
8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar.
9. ,, F. B. Evans.
10. ,, H. A. Watson.
11. ,, A. McG. C. Tampoe.
12. ,, S. H. Slater.
13. ,, C. B. Cotterell.
14. ,, R. Foulkes.

Neutral.

1. Mr. P. J. Gnanavaram Pillai.
2. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
3. Mr. Al. Ar. Narayanan Chettiyar.
4. ,, Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
5. ,, C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar.
6. ,, K. Koti Reddi.
7. ,, C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar.
8. ,, G. Harisarvottama Rao.
9. Abdul Hamid Khan Bahadur.
10. Mr. K. V. R. Swami.
11. ,, Muhammad Meera Ravuttar.
12. Mr. D. Narayana Raju.
13. K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur.
14. Mr. C. Marudavanam Pillai.
15. ,, A. Parasurama Rao Pantulu.
16. ,, C. Rama Somayajulu.
17. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
18. Mr. Biswanath Das.
19. ,, K. R. Karant.
20. ,, K. Madhavan Nayar.
21. ,, C. Venkatarangam Nayudu.
22. ,, B. Venkataratnam.

Ayes 51 ; *Noes* 14 ; *Neutral* 22.

The resolution was carried.

CONTROL OF VILLAGE PORAMBOKES

* The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI :—" Sir, I move—

' *That this Council recommends to the Government to hand over the control of village porambokes to the local boards concerned as was the case prior to G.O. No.* 4780, *L. & M., dated* 10*th November* 1926.'

" Sir, it has been stated that the reason for excluding such lands from the purview of the Local Boards Act is that the local boards have not at present the necessary staff to watch the encroachment thereon. If that is so, I submit that the local boards could have been consulted in the matter.

" The Board of Revenue also did not seem to have felt any reluctance to help the local bodies in the matter of detection of encroachments thereon as the work can be done by the karnam in the ordinary course of his duties—vide orders contained in B.P. No. 855 (Land Revenue and Settlement), dated 10th April 1925 and Board's Proceedings (Land Revenue and Settlement), dated 7th October 1924. It is not clear whether the Board of Revenue has rescinded these orders. If the Revenue Department had been asked to shoulder the responsibility of removing the encroachments on such areas, the position taken by it in paragraph 3 of the Government Order might be reasonable. Many of the boards did not seek the aid of the Revenue Department in the matter of removal of encroachments on any lands vested in them and it is obviously unfair to the boards that they should be deprived of ownership of such lands without being consulted.

(At this stage the hon. the Deputy President took the Chair.)

12-15 p.m. " With the advent of Reforms many of the provisions of the present Local Boards Act have been designed with the object of giving more powers and responsibilities to local boards in the matter of providing simple amenities to

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rural population. Cart-tracks and *battais* are the chief means of communication to rural population, by the neglect of which the local boards have made themselves open to severe criticism. Many of the boards with their limited resources have undertaken the maintenance of these *battais* one after another and the income realized from the usufructs of the trees is devoted entirely to the upkeep of these village roads. I earnestly request the House to consider if the local boards can be deprived of the chance of putting these village roads in order by transferring the income to the Revenue Department. The Revenue Department cannot spend its money for the repair of village roads and I am unable to understand how it can discharge the duties cast upon the local boards in repairing such roads. Not only this, if the local boards decide to take up the repair of any of these cart-tracks they will have to approach the Revenue Department to relinquish its control over them as they cannot spend their money on properties not vested in them. Where is the incentive then to local boards to think of repairing these cart-tracks if they are regarded as others' property? It is not uncommon that *battai* lands have been transferred to *ayan* in some cases and assigned by the Revenue Department to the detriment of traffic and the local boards have to acquire such lands subsequently.

"Various means have been adopted to provide amenities to rural population chiefly on the principle of self-help by the local boards rendering such assistance to them as are possible according to their finance. The repair of these cart-tracks is one of the items which the panchayat have been asked to undertake by the taluk boards contributing one-half of its expenditure. The small income that may be derivable from the usufructs of trees standing on such lands is utilized by panchayats for the upkeep of these cart-tracks. The properties transferred to the control of panchayats are looked after with a zealous eye as they are made to realize that they are for their benefit. Attemps are being made to plant avenue trees in the margin of these cart-tracks. Cases of illicit felling of trees in such lands are dealt with by the boards more promptly. Several cases of encroachments on Local Fund porambokes not booked by the karnam have been brought to the notice of the various boards. The collection of encroachment penalties is made by the panchayats themselves and added to their funds. Such beneficient works of public utility at little or no cost either to the State or to the local boards can be expected of the panchayats, if they are made to realize that these institutions have been designed for their benefit. I beg to request therefore that the Government be pleased to modify the notification, excluding such porambokes from the operation of the Madras Local Boards Act. With these words, I move the resolution."

Rajkumar S. N. Dorai Raja seconded the resolution.

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN.—"Madam, Deputy President, under section 60 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, all public roads in a local area vest in the union board, taluk board or district board concerned. The term 'public road,' as hon. Members are aware, includes village roads, cart tracks and foot-paths over which the public have a right of way. It was recently represented to the Government that most of the local boards have not the necessary staff to watch encroachments on village roads, cart tracks, and other communications which were not actually maintained by them and as a

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consequence these roads were liable to be encroached upon. In view of this representation, it was considered desirable to transfer the control of such roads to the Revenue department to ensure control over them in respect of encroachment. In ordering such exclusion the Government directed that the existing settlement registration of such public roads as porambokes should not be changed by the Collector without giving the local board concerned an opportunity of showing cause why such change should not be made. The intention apparently is to make possible the retransfer of these roads to the local boards concerned if they express their willingness to maintain these porambokes as roads. There can be no objection to transfer all or any of these roads to local boards concerned if they are willing to maintain them, but such transfer can be made only if the boards satisfy the Government that they are prepared to employ the staff necessary to look after and prevent encroachments thereon. As hon. Members will see from what I have said, the jurisdiction of these roads has to be preserved and if a local board expressed its desire to maintain any track as a road, there will be no difficulty about its being handed back or continuing to vest in the local board as long as it maintains the communication."

* The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI :—"In view of the assurances given by the hon. the Minister, I withdraw my resolution."

The resolution was by leave withdrawn.

TEACHING OF TECHNICAL SUBJECTS IN ADI-DRAVIDA SCHOOLS

In the absence of Swami A. S. Sahajanandam, who had given notice of the following resolution, Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai, with the leave of the House, moved it :

'*That this Council recommends to the Government that in all Adi-Dravida schools only men who are able to teach some technical subject should be appointed; that such schools should be provided with wet and dry land to an extent of not less than two acres tax free, a pair of bulls and a well for irrigation, so that elementary modern agricultural instruction may be given; and that the remission of the provincial contribution or some other available funds be utilized for this purpose.*'

* Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—"I have much pleasure in moving this resolution standing in the name of Swami Sahajanandam. In doing so, I would like to say a few words. The unemployment question has been in existence in this part of the Presidency. The leaders of the Adi-Dravidas are trying to bring home to the Government some of the existing disabilities and to mitigate the suffering. They think that having teachers who know something about technical subjects will give a certain amount of instruction to the students who in after life will be able to live by other means instead of trying to seek employment in offices which at present are debarred for these people. Secondly, a large percentage of agricultural labour is drawn from these communities. It is our object to see that the children of the Adi-Dravidas are fully equipped, so that in their after-life they may be well-qualified agriculturists. Now, this demand of a few acres of land, a pair of bulls and facilities for irrigation is not a new thing, for it is in vogue in other parts of the Province. Take, for instance, Mysore. Mysore